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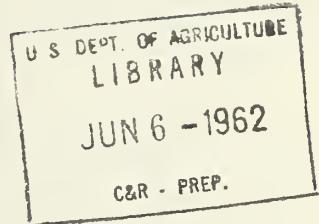
PARITY PRICES

A List of Selected References
Compiled for the Economic and Statistical Analysis Division,
U. S. Economic Research Service

by

Ruth M. Salmons
U. S. Department of Agriculture Library

March, 1962



AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. A price policy for agriculture, consistent with economic progress, that will promote adequate and more stable income from farming. *J. Farm Econ.* 27:743-902. Nov. 1945. 280.8 J822

Award-winning papers of the contest sponsored by the Association. The parity-price problem is discussed or mentioned in each of the 18 papers.

A topical digest of these papers, by W. H. Nicholls and D. G. Johnson, appears in *J. Farm Econ.* 28:267-283. Feb. 1946. Criticisms of parity price, and suggested revisions of present practices are summarized, p. 269-270. Additional discussion of the conclusions reached in the winning papers appear p. 284-293, by L. H. Simerl and R. K. Froker.

AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. COMMITTEE ON PARITY CONCEPTS. Agricultural economists' views on farm price policy. *J. Farm Econ.* 28:604-607. May 1946. 280.8 J822

Results of a survey of Association members.

AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. COMMITTEE ON PARITY CONCEPTS. Outline of a price policy for American agriculture for the postwar period. *J. Farm Econ.* 28:380-397. Feb. 1946. 280.8 J822

Includes the rise of the parity concept, and the trend in parity legislation.

AMERICAN FARM ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION. SPECIAL COMMITTEE. On the redefinition of parity price and parity income. *J. Farm Econ.* 24(4):1358-1377. Nov. 1947. 280.8 J822

In addition to the Committee's conclusions, presents dissenting and modifying opinions.

ARANT, W. D. Farm parity fallacy. New York, Natl. Econ. League, 1941. 18 p. Ref. 284.3 Ar1

Contents include: What is parity?; The base period; Prices received by farmers; Prices paid by farmers; Regional inequalities; Is parity the upper limit?; Income parity; A third type of parity; Agriculture and the War.

BACKMAN, J. Price practices and price policies; selected writings. New York, Ronald, 1953. 660 p. 284.3 B12P

Ch. 11, Agricultural prices, contains a section on the determination of parity price, from U. S. Department of Agriculture sources, and a critical appraisal of parity prices from a report by the American Farm Economic Association Committee on Parity Concepts.

BENEDICT, M. R., and STINE, O. C. Agricultural commodity programs. New York, Twentieth Century Fund, 1956. 510 p. 281.12 B43A

Discusses parity as established, its modernization, application to various commodities, and critique of parity as a goal.

BENEDICT, M. R. Can we solve the farm problem?, an analysis of Federal aid to agriculture. New York, Twentieth Century Fund, 1955. 601 p. 281.12 B43C

Appendix A: The parity concept and its relation to the farm problem, p. 532-553

BENEDICT, M. R. Farm policies of the United States, 1790-1950; a study of their origins and development. New York, Twentieth Century Fund, 1953. 548 p. Ref. 281.12 B43F

Traces the history of the parity concept, its promotion by various groups, its embodiment in legislation, and its application.

BLACK, J. D. Agricultural parity. Amer. Econ. Rev. 48:333-334, May 1958
280.8 Am32

Brief statement of the parity concept.

BLACK, J. D. Parity, parity, parity. Cambridge, Mass., Harvard Comt. on Res. Soc. Sci., 1942. 367 p. 284.3 B56

In addition to an analysis of the parity concept, parity prices, and alternative standards of parity, relates the agricultural parity problem to parity for labor and parity for capital.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Parity for agriculture. Washington, 1943. 43 p. 284.3 C352

A report prepared by the Committee for Agriculture, to present information regarding the parity concept and its application to agricultural prices and income

Contents: What is parity? Parity legislation; Prices paid by farmers; The base period; Parity income for farmers; Conclusions.

ERDMAN, H. E. Defects of the parity concept in agricultural prices. Pacific Coast Econ. Assoc. Papers 1942:60-66. Ref. 1942, pub. 1943. 280.9 P11

Contents: Definitions of parity price and parity income; How parity concept is applied; Fallacious assumptions of the parity approach; Parity not a measure of fairness; Parity concept no guide to peacetime agricultural policy; Parity adds to confusion in wartime; Alternatives to the parity approach.

FARM FOUNDATION. Turning the searchlight on farm policy; a forthright analysis of experience, lessons, criteria, and recommendations. Chicago, 1952. 82 p. 281.12 F223T

Parity prices and equality for agriculture, p. 32-34. Recommends abandonment of the parity-price formula, p. 78-80.

FITE, G. C. George N. Peek and the fight for farm parity. Norman, U. Okla. Press, 1954. 314 p. Ref. 120 P34

FULLER, W., and others. An alternative parity formula for agriculture. Iowa. Agr. Expt. Sta. Res. B. 476, 692-722. Feb. 1960. 100 Io9

G. Purnell, L. Fielder, M. Laursen, R. Beneke, and G. Shepherd, joint authors.

Literature cited, p. 722.

Defines and appraises the present parity price formula, and suggests substituting parity formula based on resource returns. Gives empirical data for application of parity returns concept, and discusses its application to individual commodities.

HALCROW, H. G., and HIERONYMUS, T. A. Parity prices in their economic context. *J. Farm Econ.* 51:1289-1300. Dec. 1959. 280.8 J822
Paper read at Symposium on Revision of the Parity Index, 50th annual meeting of the American Farm Economics Association, Aug. 23-26, 1959.
Includes discussion, p. 1300-1306, by J. A. Schnittker and G. Shepherd.

HENDERSON, H. W. Price programs of the United States Department of Agriculture. *U. S. D. A. Agr. Inform. B.* 13, rev., 94 p. Dec. 1953. 1 Ag84Ab
Section on parity, p. 40-51, includes a definition of parity price, a review of the computation of parity, and a summary of its embodiment in law. Subsections entitled New Parity, Old Parity, Transitional Parity, Prices Received by Farmers, Prices Paid by Farmers, and the Parity Ratio, The "Parity Index", and Percentage Weights Used in Computing the Parity Index.

JESNESS, O. B., ed. Readings on agricultural policy. Philadelphia, Blakiston, 1950. 470 p. Ref. 281.12 J49R

Sponsored by the American Farm Economic Association.

Pt. 2, Price and production adjustment, reprints several writings on parity price which have appeared in the *Journal of Farm Economics* and in other sources.

Partial contents: The evolution of parity, by J. D. Black, p. 91-105; Outline of a price policy for American agriculture for the postwar period, by the Committee on Parity Concepts, p. 124-140; On the redefinition of parity price and parity income, p. 203-221.

MOATS, R. H. Getting a better understanding about parity prices, Pt. 1-2. *agr. Situation* 39(5):3-4. May 1955; 39(7):7-8. July 1955. 1 Ec7Ag

PEEK, G. N., and JOHNSON, H. S. Equality for agriculture. Moline, Ill., Barrington, 1922. 47 p. 285 P34

An early expression of the parity concept: Fair exchange value, p. 22-30.

RANDALL, C. K. Parity prices. *Agr. Econ. Res.* 1(1):11-13. Jan. 1949. Ec7Agr

A review of revisions in the level of parity prices and in methods of calculation of parity, occasioned by the Agricultural Act of 1948.

Contents: Review of present practice; Revision of formula; Practices under new formula; How it works out; Publication of parity prices; Redefinition of parity income.

RUBLE, W. L. A comparison of the parity ratio with agricultural net income measures — 1910-1958. *J. Farm Econ.* 43:101-112. Feb. 1961. 280.8 J822
Examines the effectiveness of the parity price ratio as an indicator of per capita, per farm, and per worker net income, money and real.

SHEPHERD, G. S. Agricultural price analysis. Ed. 4. Ames, Iowa. State Col. Press, 1957. 293 p. 284.3 Sh4Ag

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Ch. 16, Index numbers; Ch. 17, Parity prices for farm products; Ch. 18, Modernized parity prices; Ch. 19, Appraisal of parity prices and incomes.

SHEPHERD, G. S. Agricultural price policy. Ed. 2. Ames, Iowa State Col. Press, 1947. 440 p. Ref. 284.3 Sh4A
Revision, and development, of the parity-price formula, p. 256-268.

SHEPHERD, G. S. What should go into the parity price formula? J. Farm Econ. 35:159-172. May 1953. 280.8 J822
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SHIDELER, J. H. The development of the parity price formula for agriculture, 1919-1923. Agr. Hist. 27:77-84. Ref. July 1953. 30.98 Ag8

Also discusses the development of the parity concept, and its application. Includes the people associated with it, and the political background of parity.

STAUBER, B. R., HALE, R. F., and PETERSON, B. S. The January 1959 revision of the price indexes. Agr. Econ. Res. 11(2-3):33-80. Apr.-July, 1959.

1 Ec7Agr

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STAUBER, B. R. The 1959 USDA index revisions and some related policy questions. J. Farm Econ. 51:1272-1288. Dec. 1959. 280.8 J822

Paper read at Symposium on Revision of the Parity Index, 50th annual meeting of the American Farm Economics Association, Aug. 23-26, 1959.

Includes discussion, p. 1300-1306, by J. A. Schnittker and G. Shepherd.

STAUBER, B. R. The parity index and the farm expenditure survey. J. Farm Econ. 38:369-377. May 1956. 280.8 J822

STAUBER, B. R., KOFFSKY, N. M., and RANDALL, C. K. The revised price indexes; the 1950 revision of the BAE indexes of prices received by farmers, and of prices paid by farmers, including interest, taxes, and farm wage rates. Agr. Econ. Res. 2(2):33-62. Ref. Apr. 1950. 1 Ec7Agr

Includes the use of these indexes in calculating parity prices.

THACKREY, J. F. Parity; some questions and answers. Agr. Situation 35 (3):3-4. Mar. 1951. 1 Ec7Ag

Questions as follows: How are parity prices determined? Why are both formulas being used to figure parity prices? How are "effective" parity prices determined? How long will both formulas continue to be used? How is the new parity formula different from the old? What was the reason for taking wage rates into account in calculating parity? What is the purpose of the moving base period? How does the moving base period affect parity prices of individual farm products? How does the use of the moving base period affect the general level of parity? Which formula is used in determining the general level of parity? Why do parity prices change?

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Parity price and the economic significance of parity, p. 265-269.

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TONTZ, R. L. Origin of the base period concept of parity—a significant judgment in agricultural policy. Agr. Hist. 32:3-13. Jan. 1958. 30.98 Ag8

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERV. Major statistical series of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture: how they are constructed and used. 9 v. U. S. D. A. Agr. Ndbk. 118. Washington, 1957. 1 Ag84Ah
Vol. 1, Agricultural prices and parity, 87 p.
Literature cited, p. 87.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERV. Parity and average prices received by farmers for agricultural commodities, January 1955. Agr. Prices Jan. 1955, sup. 1:43-50. 1.942 A8M58
Discusses legal provisions and late methods for computing parity price.
The parity index is published monthly in Agricultural Prices.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERV. PRICE DIV. Parity handbook. rev. ed. 28 p. Washington, 1961. 1.956 P93P21
Pt. I, "Parity Price" and Its Uses; Pt. II, Index of Prices Paid by Farmers; Pt. III, Index of Prices Received.

U. S. CONGRESS. HOUSE. COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE. Agricultural Act of 1948 (Aiken bill). Hearings, Pt. 1, 81st Cong., 1st Sess., on amendments to Public Law 876, Feb. 23-Mar. 18, 1949. Washington, 1949. 248 p. 281.12 Un322
"New parity," p. 41-43. Discussion throughout.

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Statements of O. V. Wells, C. K. Randall, and B. R. Stauber.

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Contains statements of Secretary of Agriculture Anderson regarding the redefinition of parity price, and its new applications under the bill. Also contains opinions of representatives of various farmer groups and associations.

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE. OFF. OF THE SECRETARY. Possible methods of improving the parity formula. Report...pursuant to Section 602 of the Agricultural Act of 1956. Washington, 1957. 63 p. (85th Cong., 1st Sess., S. Doc. 18) 248.3 Ag84

U. S. PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMIN. OFF. OF PRICE. Parity handbook. Washington, 1952. 40 p. 1.956 P93P21
U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, cooperating.

Contents: Pt. 1, Parity in brief; Background of parity price; Different types of parity price; The general parity ratio; What uses are made of parity price?; What type of a price is parity price?; Definition of terms or phrases using parity Parity income, Pt. 2, Index of prices paid by farmers; Pt. 3, Index of prices received by farmers.

VINING, R. Parity price and the farm problem, a case study of the concept o a solution of an economic problem. Amer. Econ. Rev. 48:343-359. May 1958. 280.8 Am32

WAITE, W. C., and TRELOGAN, H. C. Agricultural market prices. Ed. 2. New York, Wiley, 1951. 440 p. Ref. 284.3 W13

An explanation of parity price and its embodiment in legislation, p. 28-32; factors effecting parity ratio, p. 222.

WALLACE, H. A. Agricultural prices. Des Moines, Wallace Pub. Co., 1920. 224 p. 284.3 W15

An early discussion of "the ratio method of price determination."

WELLS, O. V. Parity re-examined. Amer. Econ. Rev. 48:335-342, May 1958 280.8 Am32

"The question of re-examining parity, looked at as a series of measures relating to farm prices and well-being, becomes chiefly one as to whether as economists and statisticians, we have a better set of measurements to offer."

WRIGHT, K. T. Basic weaknesses of the parity price formula for a period of extensive adjustments in agriculture. J. Farm Econ. 28:294-300. Feb. 1946.

280.8 J822

Weaknesses discussed are: Price parity does not guarantee income parity; the base period 1910-14; the weighting of items in the parity formula; disregard for technological progress in production methods; and others.

